



PAARAgraphs

Celebrating 60 years as a *real* ham radio club—Since 1937

Newsletter for the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.



CALENDAR

- Oct 3, **PAARA Meeting**, 7:30
Menlo Park Recreation Center
700 Alma Street, Menlo Park 7:30-9:30 PM
- Oct 8, **PAARA Board Meeting**, 7:30
Red Cross Blvd. 400 Mitchell Ln., Palo Alto
- Oct 17-19, **PACIFICON 97** (510) 932-6125, Concord
- Oct 25-26, **PAARA License Class**, see page 82
- Nov 1, **PAARA Auction** (note date change)
- Nov 7, **PAARA Meeting**, 7:30
- Nov.....8.....**PAARA Special Event Station**
- Nov 12, **PAARA Board Meeting**, 7:30
- Dec 5, **PAARA Meeting**, 7:30
- Dec 10, **PAARA Board Meeting**, 7:30



Program

October 3, 1997
7:30 P.M.

Speaker:

Not confirmed at press time
Check on NET Monday night before meeting

PAARA Radio NET every Monday evening, at 8:30pm,
on the 145.230-600 repeater MHz, PL tone off. •



PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

de VIC BLACK, AB6SO

Thanks go out to everyone who offered emotional support during my recent health problems. An angiogram indicated that I had 100% blockage of the right coronary artery. An attempt was made to open the vessel using balloon angioplasty, but the effort failed. During that procedure, I suffered a minor heart attack when the artery lumen, or inside wall, collapsed and cut off blood to the collateral arteries (sort of like natural by-passes). This was a known risk and the likelihood of success was rather low. I accepted the risk in hopes of solving the problem. I will now treat the condition with medication, diet and exercise in an effort to encourage the collaterals to continue to grow and open up. I have angina, or chest pain, during exertion, but I'm in no immediate danger of serious damage because of the extensive collateral network (possibly a result of my 15 years of competitive cycling).

Many hams have touted the new movie "Contact" as the best entertainment value of the year. It's reputed to be one of the few Hollywood movies to be made using absolutely no movie sets. Everything, including the (neat and clean) ham shack, was filmed at an actual working site. Look carefully at the bookshelves and you'll even see books by University of Ohio antenna guru **John Kraus W8JK**, the inventor of the wire 8JK end fire array, the helical beam, the corner reflector, and the parabolic dish. Your PAARA Board of Directors has made arrangements to procure an autographed copy of **Dr. Kraus's** book on radio astronomy, "Big Ears", to be awarded to a lucky recipient at a future club activity.

Pacificon, scheduled for Friday through Sunday, October 17, 18 and 19 at the Concord Hilton Hotel in Concord, is competing head-to-head with "Contact" for the title of Event of the Year. At a pre-registration cost of only \$3 this hamfest and convention is truly an entertainment and educational bargain. If you wait to pay at the door, it still costs only \$5 for the full

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Miscellaneous Dates

Flea Market at Foothill

- Mar 8 West Valley Amateur Radio Association (WVARA)
- Apr 12 Palo Alto Chapter, American Red Cross
- May 10 Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association (PAARA)
- Jun 14 San Jose Chapter, American Red Cross
- Jul 12 Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association (SCCARA)
- Aug 9 South Peninsula Emergency Communication System (SPECS)
- Sep 13 Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club (EMARC)
- >Oct 11 Silicon Valley Emergency Communications System (SVECS)

PAARA Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association

meets 1st Friday 7:30 each month, Net 145.230 each Monday 8:30,
 contact: Vic Black, Jr. AB6SO, (415)366-0636.

PAARA Auction, Saturday, November 1, (tentative)

contact Vic Black, AB6SO, (415)366-0636.

EMARC Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club

Meets 4th Friday 7:30 each month,
 contact Sheldon Edelman 415-858-2176, Edelman@richochet.net

NCDXC Northern California DX Club

Meets 2nd Friday each month, repeater for member info 147.360, each
 Thursday 8:00PM, contact Bob Mammarella KB6FEC 408 729 1544.

NorCalQRP Northern California QRP Club

Meets 1st Sunday each month, contact Jim Cates 3241 Eastwood Rd.,
 Sacramento, CA 95821.

Perham Foundation, contact Jerry Tucker WA6LNV 415-961-3266

SPECS Southern Peninsula Emergency Communication System

Meets each Monday 8:00PM on Net 145.27, 224.36, 440.80 MHz
 contact Mike Hastings KB6LCJ, 408-243-6745 or 408-249-6909.

SCARES South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Meets 3rd Thursday 7:30 each month, San Carlos City Hall.
 Net is on 144.45 & 444.50 (PL-100) 7:30 Monday evenings.
 contact Dick Collins K6ANN 415-593-8952

SCCARA Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Operates W6UU repeater 146.385+ Nets: 2m, W6UU, 7:30 Mon; 10m,
 28.385, 8:00 Thur. Meets 2nd Mon each month. Contact Jack R

SVECS Silicon Valley Emergency Communications

Operates WB6ADZ repeater (146.115 MHz+)
 contact Lou Stierer WA6QYS 408 241 7999

WVARA West Valley Amateur Radio Association

operates W6PIY repeater 147.39+, 223.96, 441.875, 1286.2
 Meets 3rd Wed every month. Contact Glen Lokke Jr. KE6NBO
 at 408 971 8626, or glokke@pacbell.net

Disaster Services, PALO ALTO CHAPTER, American Red Cross

Meets 3rd Wed. each month 7:30PM, HF, packet, BBS, ATV, OSCAR
 Gateway, NASA satellite, Contact Alan Ball 415-688-0423.

SAN JOSE CHAPTER, American Red Cross
 contact Scott Hensley KB6UOO, 408 249 7093, fsh@richochet.net

VE Exams, 3rd Saturday each month, 11AM, 145.23- PL=100Hz

American Legion Hall, 651 El Camino Real, R.C.
 contact Joe KB6OWG.

CELEBRATE PAARA'S SIXTIETH "60 for 60"

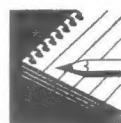
GET ON THE AIR

Have at least 60 QSO's between July 1 and Dec 31, 1997

Any band-Any mode-Simplex only -no repeater contacts
 Submit log showing date, time and other station's call

Specially designed certificates
 will be awarded in early 1998

No confirming QSL's required!!



The Board Minutes

Dave Bailey (WS6W), Secretary

PAARA Board Meeting September 10, 1997

Present: Vic Black (AB6SO)- Pres. Dave Bailey (WS6W)- Sec.

Dave Meacham (W6EMD) V.P.

Charlie Grandjean (WD6FAF)

Doug Schliebus (W6HXL)- Treas

Fred Canham (K6YT)

Steve Stuntz (K6FS)

Wally Porter (K6URO)

Bill Rausch (AA6PA)

John Buonocore (KD6ZL)

The meeting was called to order by Vic (AB6SO). The July 16 PAARA Board meeting minutes were read by Dave (WS6W). The following corrections were made:

1. "Hank (WA0ZGQ) is a friend of Vic (AB6SO)." should read "Rich (WA0ZGQ) is a friend of Hank (W6UCE)."
2. Item 2 under New Business should read "Air National Guard," not "International Guard."
3. Item 4 under New Business - Jean-Michel's surname is Bombar.

Old Business:

Doug (W6HXL) gave the treasurer's report. We have \$4693 in the checking account. Two new members, Andreas Junge (KF6NEB) and Howard Hushbeck (W6HUW, ex-KC6EC1) paid their dues at Friday's meeting.

There was no PAARAgaphs Editor's Report this evening.

New Business:

1. The Autumn Auction will be held Saturday, November 1, at the Shriner's Hall in San Mateo. Vic (AB6SO) will get in touch with Gerry (WA6LNV) who did the flyers last year. We need more people helping with registration. There will be no door prizes unless we get prize donations, and we will buy fewer donuts (1 gross) this year. The auction will begin at 7:00 a.m., and the helpers will show up at 6:00 a.m. The only expenses will be the room rent and the coffee and donuts.

2. Dave (WS6W) said that Herb (KF6BKL) and Dave (W6EMD) won net operating awards this month.

Other Business:

1. The License Class will be held October 25 and 26. Bill (AA6PA) will teach and check with Rich (W6APZ). We need brochures. Students should have books, and the books that Dave (WS6W) has should be updated with the new RF safety rules. The QTH will be the Red Cross Building in Palo Alto. We do not have examiners lined up. For more information, contact Vic (AB6SO).

2. The Special Event Station for our 60th anniversary will operate on November 8. The deadline for publication in QST was missed, but Vic (AB6SO) will e-mail other publications with the information. Operation will be in the 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter General portions. The QTH will be discussed at the next meeting. Vic (AB6SO) has a generator and rig.

3. Dave (WS6W) will chair the Officers Nominating Committee. We need officers and Board members for next year. If you are interested, contact Dave (WS6W).

4. The Winter Party will be held in January. We will distribute the 60/60 Awards and give ourselves the Field Day

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Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
PO Box 911
Menlo Park, CA 94026

President.....Vic Black, Jr., AB6SO.....(415) 366-0636
Vice President.....Dave Meacham, W6EMD.....(415) 369 2633
Secretary.....Dave Bailey, WS6W.....(408) 730-5215
Treasurer.....Doug Schliebus, W6HXL.....(415) 851 0727
Trustee/Property/Badges..Fred Canham, K6YT(415) 948-9238
ARES Officer.....Lily Anne Hillis, N6PGM(415) 325-5484
Club Historian.....Steve Stuntz, K6FS.....(415) 322-4952
Advertising.....Bob Korte, KD6KYT.....(415) 595 1842

Board of Directors

John Buonocore, KD6ZL (415) 366 1658 '97
Fred Canham, K6YT (415) 948 9238 '97
Charles Grandjean, WD6FAF '98
Steve Stuntz, K6FS (415) 322 4952 '97
(see "Calendar" for Board meeting times, visitors welcome)

PAARAgaphs Staff

Editor.....Wally Porter, K6URO.....(415) 494 7038
Database.....Bill McElhinney, KA6LZI.....(415) 325 9808
e-mail Address: wmpor@aol.com

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three day program. Not bad since it costs \$2 for parking alone to attend a Foothill Flea Market. But what do you get for your hard earned \$3?

First of all, there's a two day flea market. Next, you can attend the manufacturers' commercial displays and see all of the new products for 1998. You can even get show discounts if you want to be the first in your neighborhood with the latest ham gadgets and toys. A major attraction for many is the large number of technical forums. **Ray Gaschk**, who spoke to PAARA last year, has arranged for an entire day of antenna forums on Friday. (There's an additional cost of \$10 for these forums to pay for the educational materials). PAARA member **Bill Rausch AA6PA** will lead the AMSAT forum on satellite communications. There will be an operating satellite station and special event station as well as an added attraction this year: an antenna testing session. Other forums will help you get started with Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS), the Internet, DX, high speed packet and bicycle mobile, among others.

Let's look at just one aspect of the forums. **Doug Hendricks KI6DS** of the NorCal QRP Club shared much of the following information with me. Only four years old, the NorCal club now boasts more than 2500 members in 75 countries. This great size allows the club to sponsor an outstanding lineup of world class speakers to Pacificon. NorCal alone is sponsoring six technical forums. But, wait! It's not all QRP. For instance, world record CW speed champ **Chuck Adams, K5FO** of Dallas, Texas and high speed CW whiz **Monte Stark KU7Y** of Reno will conduct a CW contest operating demonstration. Watching them explain operating tips and techniques could improve your on-the-air capabilities regardless of your transmitter power level or your interest in contesting since contesting is really nothing more than a

disguised form of message handling.

Mike Gipe K1MG will demonstrate surface mount construction techniques. This is the printed circuit technique that allows the new HT's and HF rigs to be so small. Yes, you CAN do it at home using SurfBoards, the surface mount equivalent of perf board.

Roy Lewallen W7EL is an engineer at Techtronix in Beaverton, Oregon. Many consider Roy to be one of the world's best antenna software programmers. His antenna modeling programs ELNEC and EZNEC are world standards. He'll talk about one of his favorite ham activities, operating from field locations. Each year he meets hams from the Bay Area to set up Field Day operations at Klamath Falls near the Oregon/California border in order to test his field rigs. His W7EL Transceiver is a classic and is widely regarded as the rig that started the modern, 5 watt HF revolution. Roy and fellow Techtronix engineer **Wes Hayward W7ZOI** inspired **Wayne Burdick N6KR** to become a ham while Wayne was still in Junior High. You'll remember Wayne as a PAARA guest speaker when he discussed his NorCal 40 transceiver design.

Wayne has now designed a whole family of highly efficient rigs and excellent ham accessories including the Sierra, the world's only 9-band CW transceiver commercially available in kit form. His KC-1 was the world's first audio based frequency counter/memory keyer. The KC-2, NorCal 49er and the SST series of tiny monoband transceivers all broke new ground in design philosophy. Since Wayne is world renown for his simple, elegant, efficient and minimized rigs, it's appropriate that he will speak about optimizing transceiver designs. These kit products are available from PAARAgaphs advertiser Wilderness Radio.

Dave Benson, NN1G will travel from Newington, CT to share his experiences as the owner of Small Wonder Labs. Dave is one of the world's foremost HF transceiver designers and will discuss his design philosophy which varies substantially from Wayne Burdick's. His product line includes the NN1G Transceiver, the 30-40 & 40-40 CW transceivers, the Green Mountain series of CW transceivers, and the White Mountain series of SSB transceivers, all available as kits.

When **Ori Mizrahi-Shalom AC6AN** described his 38 Special at PAARA's January meeting, he mentioned that it would accept the recently developed TiCK keyer as a drop in accessory. That keyer was invented by **Gary Diana N2JGU** and **Brad Mitchell WB8YGG** from Rochester, NY. They started their company, Imbedded Research, to supply innovative products to the ham market after they designed the Atomic Keyer and the revolutionary TiCK series of keyers. The TiCK is a PIC RISC based Iambic keyer chip adjustable for either mode A or B and mounts on a PC board only 1 X 1.2 inches. Maybe the most revolutionary thing about their chip design is the low sticker price of \$5! The TiCK-2 keyer includes a memory and their latest model keyer uses surface mount technology and is truly tiny (about the size of a postage stamp). They'll discuss the TiCK keyers and the history of Iambic keyer chips. (Yes,

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PAARA Meeting Minutes

September 5, 1997

submitted by: Dave Bailey (WS6W), Secretary

President **Vic Black (AB6SO)** called the meeting to order, and the introductions were done. First-time visitor **Andreas (KF6NEB)** joined the club this evening. **Howard Hushbeck**, who was also a new member this evening, changed his call from **KC6ECI** to **W6HUW**. In addition, **Zack (KF6NCS)**, the son of **Don (K6DPW)**, just received his license.

Announcements:

1. The Livermore Swap Meet will be held this Sunday, September 7, from 7:00 to 11:00 a.m.
2. The Nor Cal QRP Club Meeting will be held at 11:00 a.m. this Sunday, September 7, after the Livermore Swap Meet.
3. The PAARA Board Meeting will be held this Wednesday, September 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the Pale Alto Red Cross Building, 400 Mitchell Lane, Pale Alto (near the Cal Train station in downtown Pale Alto). Visitors are welcome.
4. Next Saturday, September 13, the Foothill College Flea Market will be held at 6:00 a.m.
5. On Saturday, September 20, VEC License Exams will be held at the American Legion Hall, 651 El Camino Real, in Redwood City. Volunteers are welcome.
6. For club badges, see **Fred (K6YT)**.
7. **hBob (KD6KYT)** ad a list of items for sale up front.
8. **Vic (AB6SO)** thanked people for their support during his illness.

Continuing Business:

1. The Autumn Auction date has been set for Nov 1. We need volunteers to help with registration and a kitchen crew to sell coffee and donuts.
2. The PAARA 60th Anniversary Special Event Station will operate on Saturday, November 8.

New Business:

1. **Steve (K6FS)** presented the Air National Guard Special Event Award to **Dan (WB6STW)**, who contacted the station on 20 meters mobile. **Steve (K6FS)** also talked about the happenings in the Air National Guard wing at Moffitt Field. The commanding officer Colonel Steve Spears is interested in amateur radio as a potential support for rescue operations. The master sergeant was introduced, and Steve will have conferences with him. There are survival and rescue issues for the upcoming winter storms caused by El Nifio, and there are no hams in the wing. He wants to speak to PAARA sometime in the future.
2. The Monday Night Net operating awards were presented by **Vic (AB6SO)** to **Wally (K6URO)**, **Fred (K6YT)**, **Ron (KD6RFT)**, and **Rich (W6APZ)**. These people checked into our net at least 20 times in 1997.
3. The 60/60 Award will be given to anybody who contacts at least 60 stations simplex between now and the end of the year.

Operating News:

1. The VHF Sweepstakes will be held in September 13.
2. **Dave (W6EMD)** participated in the 10 meter contest with his handie-talkie using only 2 watts. He received an international operating award by getting first place in the Santa Clara Valley for mixed mode QRP. His score was 72 points, and he was the only entry in that category. Nobody entered the CW only QRP category.
3. **Dan (WB6STW)** worked Argentina on 10 meters. He worked his first Spain contact on 20 meters at 2200 GMT. The bands are opening up.

Other Business:

1. **Gerry (WA6LNV)** presented **Fred (K6YT)** a photograph of the 40 meter monobander used at Field Day. Thanks, Fred, for all your hard work at Field Day this year.
2. There were handouts written by **Jim Maxwell** and **Brad Wyatt** on the federal legislation involving scanners and the Privacy Act.
3. **Jack Troster (W6ISQ)** wrote an HF beacon article in QST.
4. Theda mentioned that we should reinstate the raffle.
5. The new ham class will be held the last weekend in October at the Red Cross in Pale Alto.

Since there was no speaker this evening, the meeting was adjourned by **Vic (AB6SO)**.

(Continued from page 79) Ponderings

much of their competition is now history!). You may want to check <http://www.frontiernet/~embres> for their web page.

If you're interested in learning to align your rigs don't miss **Paul Harden NA5N**. Paul is a technician for the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Socorro, New Mexico (featured in the movie "Contact"). He authored the "Data Book for QRPers", a must have book for homebrewers. Paul's outstanding presentation made him one of the most popular speakers at last year's Pacificon.

St. Louis, Missouri consultant **Dave Gauding NF0R** will discuss antennas for portable and stealth operations. This forum is a "must see" if you live in an apartment. Dave is well known for his design contributions to the St. Louis Tuner, the St. Louis Audio Filter, and the telescoping fishing pole St. Louis Vertical Antenna designs.

Oh, yes! There's one other important aspect to Pacificon. It allows you to meet new friends and to renew old acquaintances. I'll look for you there. ☺☺☺

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plaque since we won it again this year.

5. **Vic (AB6SO)** reviewed a list of possible speakers.

6. **Dave (WS6W)** suggested that the raffle be reinstated. The following scheme was proposed: No more than 3 available prizes to one winner. The prizes should be about \$30, preferably gift certificates from people advertising in PAARAgaphs. The tickets will be \$1 each. **Charlie (WD6FAF)** moved that this raffle scheme be approved. The raffle was approved by the Board.

The meeting was adjourned. — **Dave Bailey (WS6W) Secretary**



WEB WANDERINGS

de Vic Black, AB6SO

On a Labor Day rail fan trip, PAARA member **Mike Leland KD6PIW** was searching for the source of steam locomotive sounds when a random turn down a side street landed him at the Virginia City Radio Museum. The museum is operated by **Henry W7BUG** and **Sharon KK7EI Rogers** at 109 South F Street, Virginia City, NV 89440. Museum displays feature over 150 lovingly restored antique wireless and radio apparatus from 1915 through 1950. The accessories display includes mechanical (resonant) audio amplifiers, galena crystal detectors and over 100 unusual vacuum tubes including DeForrest Audion globe triodes and, appropriately, several Eimac transmitting tubes from the 1950's. (Eimac's **Bill Eitel** retired to nearby Carson City). The microphone and telegraph key collections are especially interesting. Attached to the museum is their operating vintage ham station, mostly Collins equipped, with the obligatory sign "Real Radios Glow in the Dark". One operating position features Heathkit AM transmitters and converted military surplus receivers, a common combination during the early '50s. QSL's on the walls show mostly 40 year old 2X3 WN and KN novice call signs plus a lot of vintage DX QSL's. The museum's a bargain at a requested donation of \$2 for adults and \$1 for children. Call them at (702) 847-9047 or check their web site at <http://www.tek-majic.com/radio>.

Speaking of wandering, even without the world wide web it's a small, small world. While wandering around Europe on a recent tour, PAARA member **Sy Stein WA6ROM**, a retired neurosurgeon, noticed signs of stroke in one of the women on the tour. She was rushed to a hospital where Sy tried to explain the problem. Finally, a doctor was found who could speak English. He asked if Sy was a physician. When Sy introduced himself, the doctor said, "Oh yes, I know you! I use your stereotaxic instrument". (This is an instrument that attaches to the skull to hold the head and permits a three dimensional view of the head while allowing precise changes in orientation during delicate brain surgery). After the patient was stabilized, Sy escorted her to Los Angeles where she was transferred for care to her brother, a cardiologist. Incidentally, Sy indicated that he wouldn't use that surgical instrument himself, even though he invented it, as it is now considered to be obsolete!

Dr. Rogerio "Roger" Gonzaga CT1ETT travels a lot in his duties as a physician and Surgical Professor at the Faculdade de Medicina do Porto, Portugal. He operates portable (on the radio, not on patients!) from hotel rooms in his native Portugal as well as from other European destinations. He reported problems making HF antennas that would work well and were easy to transport. His solution is interesting and involves a PAARA member.

In an e-mail message **Roger** reports in his own words, "I

have bought an extensible fishing rod (abt 3.6 meters) and constructed the folded Marconi with 300 ohms TV line (very hard to find in CT1, but I had bought a reserve in Frisco, thanks to **Dave Meacham W6EMD**). Correcting for the conduction velocity, I have cut it with 4.25 meters, to cover the 20 meters band, shorting the distal end and connecting the proximal one to the PL connector. As the different working conditions would probably untune the aerial, I have fed it through one of those small MFJ long-wire tuners, to which I had already adapted a 5.5 meters wire radial. To support the rod I have adapted an old lamp support to fix it to a table, window or the like."

The folded Marconi antenna is basically the top half of a vertical folded dipole and is normally used on the 160 meter band and occasionally on 80. On those bands as much of the antenna as possible is mounted vertically with the top portion bent over parallel to the ground in an inverted-L configuration. Since **Roger's** antenna is longer than his support, it appears that he lets the end dangle from the fishing rod which is probably mounted at an angle as a "sloper" from a hotel balcony.

The folded Marconi is made, as **Roger** stated, by shorting the far end of the electrical quarter wave length 300 Ohm twinlead and feeding the near end directly with 50 ohm coax with one twinlead conductor tied to the coax center conductor and the other to the shield. A good ground is required at the junction of the twinlead and coax shield. **Roger** replaced the ground with a physical quarter wave counterpoise wire and reports excellent results. Twinlead is inexpensive, plentiful, and is easy to roll up without tangling. It also exhibits low losses compared to coaxial cable. This antenna could be used as a fixed station or portable vertical by hoisting it up a tree or other support. It should also work well on the higher bands while mounted inside of a PVC pipe. The creative part of **Roger's** solution is the choice of bands and the use of a telescoping fishing rod as a support.

Did you ever want to make one of those twinlead J-pole antennas? **Ed Loranger WE6W** recommends a web page where you can "roll your own". Just enter the frequency you want and the software tells you how to make the antenna. Go to

<http://home.earthlink.net/~aschmitz/antennas/jpolecalc.html>.

Ed also recommends a couple of commercial web sites of special interest to amateurs. Try The RF Connection at <http://www.therfc.com>

or Storm Products at

<http://www.stormproducts.com/cable/rgcoax.htm>

Both have lots of up to date design and specification charts and tables for coax cable.

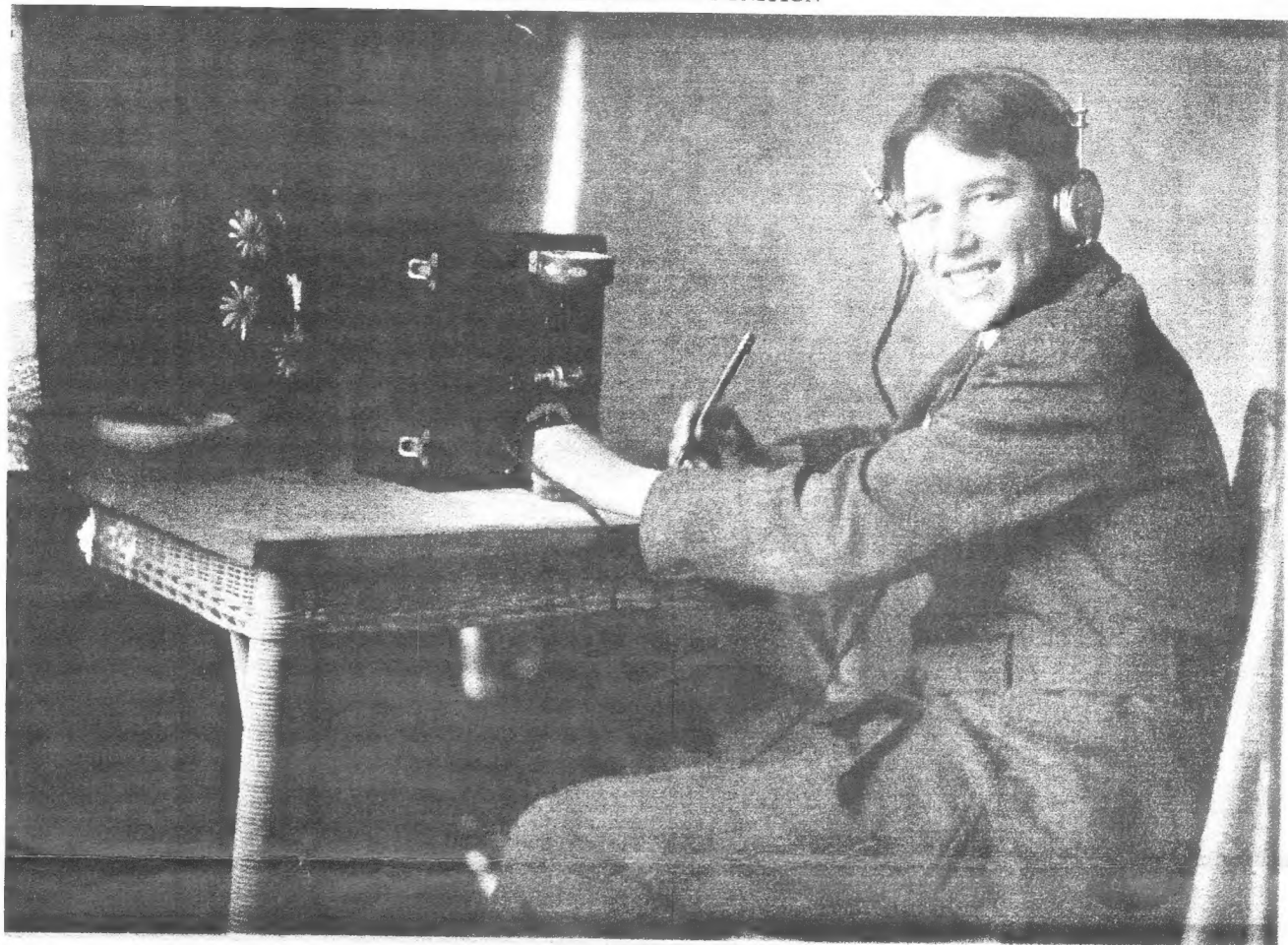
PAARA member **Hal Godfrey N6AN** likes

<http://www.en.com/users/k8yse/index.html>

He says, "If you want all the latest DX and other ham goings-on, try this site. This is really a good ham related web site with oodles of ham information". **Hal** has found some

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PAARA MEMBER RECOGNITION



December 1921 photo

Arthur Lawrence Bolton, Jr.

NM6K

ORIGINAL LICENSE IN 1920 AS

6AGY

Art is a regular attending member of PAARA

License Class

2 full days = October 25-26

No Code Technician

or

Written Section of Novice

Palo Alto Red Cross Building
400 Mitchell Lane, Palo Alto
next to train station parking lot

for further information
come to October PAARA meeting or contact Vic Black, AB6SO



VE

September 29, 1997 the VE session was held in the American Legion Hall in Redwood City. A goodly turnout of applicants were on hand.

Unfortunately, six of them were only interested in the CW test, and our CW tester was not on hand. So their money was refunded and we sent them to other venues. The usual quorum of the VE crew was on hand for the written testing, **Joe Horne, Gene Irazarry, Dan Curry, & Ron Panton.**

However, we did miss **Bill Sooman**, our CW guru.

73, Ron W6VG

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other links to callsign databases. The Buckmaster callbook is at

http://www.buck.com/cgi-bin/do_hamcall/

There is no other ham data here. A callbook site with more ham radio information is found at

<http://www.geocities.com/TheTropics/3341/call.html/>

This one accesses QRZ!, Buckmaster, FCC Database, Canadian callbook, Finnish, LX, Taiwan, German & MIT callbooks plus a couple of others. Another site he recommends with callsign lookups, plus other features, is

<http://www.lantz.com/index.html/>

Try them all and book mark the ones you like the best.

Bob Schreibmaier K3PH and Phil Karras KE3FL both sent e-mail messages recommending still another callsign lookup from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. The site is at

<http://www.uarl.edu/~hamradio/callsign.html/>

Phil also likes

<http://www.wm7d.net/fcc/callsign.html/>

For straight e-mail callbooks, he uses:

to: lookup@qrz.com

subject: (none needed)

lookup <callsign>

lookup <callsign>

etc, as many lines as needed (ONE callsign per line).

quit.

For foreign callsigns, use the same message format, but send your request to qsl-info@datasync.com/ These sites will work with your free Juno account.

—Vic Black (AB6SO)



PAARA PRIDE
wear your
PAARA Badge
to

meetings, picnics, field days, winter parties, ham fests,
flea markets, Pacificcons...
(if you need one, contact Fred, K6YT)

PAARAgaphs Ad Rates

PAARAgaphs accepts paid advertisements from non-members.
(short personal ads remain free for members in good standing).

All ad rates listed are per issue only.

1. Not for profit ads by association members for ham-related items and wants. No cost
for business card size ads (additional space at \$2.50 per business card size).

2. For Profit organizations and/or individuals: \$5-business card size, \$25-half page, \$50 full page or back cover.

These fees may be reduced or waived in exchange for a valuable consideration that is given to the Association or its general membership. Such consideration must be in addition to any existing arrangements with the association.

The PAARAgaphs editors reserve the right to reject any ad deemed to be not in the best interest of the Association. All fees are for "scanner-ready" copy or text-only ads.

PAARA NEEDS A LOGO

For 60 years we've been anonymous; it's high time we showed off our unique identity. So get busy — CREATE! Come up with a design that reflects our eclectic interests and can be easily reproduced. The winner will be immortalized by publication in PAARAgaphs forevermore.

HAVE AT IT, GALS & GUYS PAARA Historian -Steve K6FS

RGK
TECHNICAL
SALES

BOB KORTE

605 SPAR DRIVE
REDWOOD CITY
CA 94065

(415) 593-2652
HmOffice/Fax

(408) 534-4285
V.M./Pager

RGK4U@aol.com

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AMPEX

from Vic Black, AB6SO

The Ampex cafeteria is history. A lot of ham activities occurred in that building. Many hams will remember the PAARA Autumn Auctions, the VEC license sessions, the Pacific Packet Radio Society meetings and the High Tech Experimenters' Club. Some of us got our start in computers there at the Peninsula Apple Users Group meetings. The Ampex Museum of Magnetic Recording was also housed in the basement of that same building where **Jim Hillbun WA6QCX** was Curator. There's nothing left now but a pile of rubble as the site is being cleared by the new owners to make way for new construction.

BE AN ARTIST WIN FAME & FORTUNE!

A real PAARA contest
design the



60
for
60

certificate

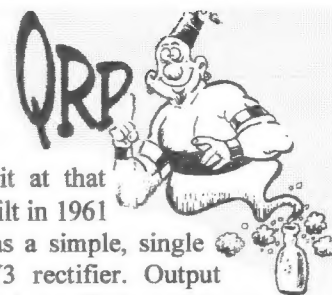
Let your imagination/ingenuity run away - get out the pencils, pens, crayons, magic markers, water colors, sketch-pad, whatever - a real challenge computer artists - show what you can create!

Submit as many designs as you wish - entries will be judged by a panel of "experts". The winner will receive a prize worth having and maybe possible publication in QST.

Format: 8.5x11 (standard letter size) preferred.
Colors: you bet

contact Steve Stuntz, (K6FS)

SAM SAYS



CQ QRP de KF6ML

(continued from last month)

Although I didn't realize it at that time, my first QRP rig was built in 1961 as a novice in Hawaii. It was a simple, single 6V6 transmitter with a 5Y3 rectifier. Output power was about 4 watts, and my first contact was Northern California about 2,000 miles away. That was only 500 miles per watt, but what a gratifying experience!

It would be over 30 years later when I would build again and this time, I still don't realize what I'm getting into.

First, it was the NorCal 49'er, a 40m 9v transceiver in the 1w range. Then, the Pixie 40m xcvr. You can see that I like 7mHz. My rig in the stapler is really only a transmitter and not a transceiver as many believe. But this project started-"what are you going to build next?" But I continued to build mostly NorCal kits, like the Cascade- a 75 and 20m SSB transceiver and the St. Louis antenna tuner/swr bridge. Not being a designer, I chose to become a "packager" and worked on "one-of-a-kind" enclosures, like the stapler.

My first serious "container" was for the 1997 Dayton Hamvention- packaging an "accessory box," including battery, voltmeter, SWR/antenna tuner, dummy load, dipoles for 30 and 40 meters, audio amplifier/speaker and, oh yes, with the space left over, a .70m transceiver AND a 40m transceiver- complete with RIT, Iambic keyer/paddle, and space for 5w amplifiers for both bands. Entered the Dayton building contest and with the very stiff competition, lucky enough to place 3rd in the combined 38 Special/Rainbow Tuner category.

Except for my novice rig, all this happened in the last two years- after I retired and on a limited income. I really don't have any more time than the rest of you- 24 hours a day. I volunteer work in the mornings- 5 days a week and I spend a great deal of time with my 6 grandchildren, what a joy they are. And ham radio is only one of my hobbies! How? PRIORITY- not what I would like to do, but what I'm willing NOT TO DO, to accomplish my short and long range goals. You too can do it!

72's, Sam KFGML

(continued next month) perhaps a little QRP history?

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TREASURER'S REPORT August

Income

Dues \$ 12

Expenses

Refreshments \$ 20
Field Day 50
Auction 100
Picnic 10
PAARAgaphs 252
\$432

Balance in Checking Account \$4693
9/5/97

New Members:

Andreas Junge, KF6NEB, Menlo Park
Howard Hushbeck, W6HUW/KC6ECT

Sept. 10, 1997

D. Schliebus, W6HXL Treasurer

Join us for pre-meeting eyeball
QSO Oct 3rd
gab & gobble

6 pm— at Su Hong Restaurant
1039 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
—across from Kepler's Book Store—

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AWARD

To celebrate our 60th year:

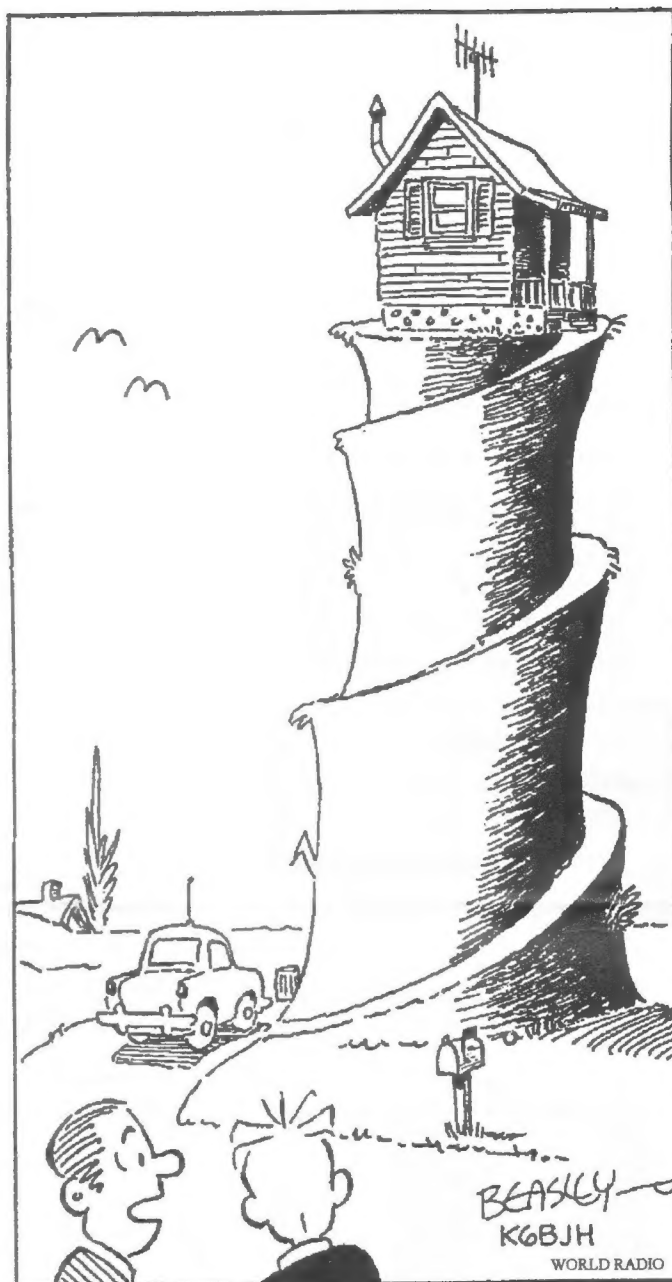
PAARA members making 60 contacts July 1, 1997–December 31, 1997
All bands, any mode (except repeaters). Submit log or photo copy showing date,
time, freq., call, name and QTH. QSL not required. You will receive our 60 year
award from PAARA. More info at October meeting. —Steve, K6FS

PAARA MONDAY NIGHT NET

8:30 PM 145.230-600 MHz repeater

PL tone off

Latest news between monthly issues of PAARAgaph



YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE THE DIFFERENCE IN
RECEPTION BETWEEN JUST THE DRIVEWAY
AND THE FRONT PORCH OF BILL'S QTH!

PAARA

7:30 October 3rd

PAARA-Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association-P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, California 94026-0911

Club meetings are on the first Friday of each month, 7:30pm at the Menlo Park Recreation Center, 700 Alma Street, Menlo Park, CA. •
Radio NET every Monday evening, at 8:30pm, on the 145.230-600 MHz repeater, PL tone off. • Membership in PAARA is \$12.00 per
calendar year which includes a subscription to PAARAgaphs. • Make payment to the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association.

